CANADIAN Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

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The Press '... a Friend Indeed'

Fast Finish in Victory Loan

Theatres kept their campaign up for the Sixth Victory Loan until the finish and industry people were very happy at its success.

John V. Ward, manager of the Seneeca, Niagara Falls, dressed a window right next to the re-

(Continued on Page 2)

Republic Winks At Dame Fortune

Republic seems definitely committed to a policy of travelling first-class from here on out, according to the announcements of Herbert J. Yates and James R. Grainger. The news of 1944-45 plans indicates that it won't be long before the studio makes de

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Tilbury House Fined For Faulty Return

Plaza Theatre of Tilbury, Ontario, was successfully prosecuted for failing to include the number of its patrons in its weekly amusement tax return. The operator was fined double the amount of the tax for which the action was taken, plus a further amount of $400.

Kent Versus United Action Resumed

The "restraint" action of the Kent Theatre versus United Amusements in Montreal reopened last week. Attorney for the plaintiffs complained that George Ganetakos was a difficult witness. The judge allowed a motion asking that J. J. Fitzgibbons, head of Famous Players, be summoned as a witness.

Newspapers Defend Industry On 'Delinquency' Question

Favorable inclinations of Canadian newspapers towards the motion picture is being observed with gratification and gratitude by members of the industry. Criticism of films as juvenile fodder has grown of late, perhaps because of war nerves, and there is a growing nervousness in the trade. The amount of space given to the conduct of certain stars, added to that of union trouble in Hollywood caused by unscruplous leaders, hasn't done the industry any good, serving to undermine public faith.

The matter of juvenile delinquency has brought quite a few

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Theatre Will Help Farm Commandos

Ontario theatres, working through the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario, will boost recruiting for Farm Commandos. Last year theatre assistance spurred volunteers. Managers will have application forms on hand.

APRS to Collect Music Royalties

The Copyright Appeal Board has granted permission to the American Performing Right Society, a new music royalties agency, for collection of fees from theatres and other users of its repertoire. The Canadian Performing Right Society, form-

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Maynard Pro-Mayor

Gene Maynard, manager of the Chateau, Outremont City, Quebec, has been appointed pro-mayor. He was an alderman.

Annual Report From Ontario

Excellent Summary Covers Many Problems

"The fifth year of the war and the fiftieth year of the motion picture finds this medium of entertainment and information more closely related to the daily life of the people and the events of the day than ever before in its history," states O. J. Silverthorne, chairman of the Motion Picture Censorship and Theatre Inspection Branch of Ontario, in his annual report to the Honourable L. M. Frost, K.C., Provincial Treasurer, who is its chief officer. "It is continuing its important support to humanitarian and patriotic causes whenever an appeal is made for public contributions." Mr. Silverthorne cited the Sixth Victory Loan as an example. A great deal of reliance has been placed by the federal and provincial governments on the motion picture industry," he said, "and it has always given full co-operation."

The chairman issued a broad report this year, in which he also reviewed Juvenile Delinquency as related to motion pictures, the application of censorship to films

O. J. SILVERTHORNE

Chairman of the Province of Ontario Motion Picture Censorship and Theatre Inspection Branch.

and advertising, dramatic content of films, the rise of British films, the growth of visual education, the state of theatre safety, and operation of theatre and film regulations.

The report, in stating the limits of the Censorship Board's work and authority, explained the nature of film distribution and the difficulties involved in maintaining it in wartime. "This Board," the chairman said, "has no connection with the physical distribution of films, having only the right to determine the suitability of dramatic material for Ontario audiences." This was also in answer to frequent enquiries about films shown in the United States but delayed in their Canadian presentation.

78 of 1,891 Altered

During the period under review 56 of 1,767 film subjects submitted by USA companies were altered, as were 17 of 80 that came from Britain. Two of 23 made in Canada were cut and one of 15 from Russia was revised. Of the films screened, 630

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Cobra Woman is a coming production from UNIVERSAL that will line them up broad and long. The same potent boxoffice combination of a number of recent films, Maria Montez, Jon Hall and Sabu, are seen again in a lavish and spectacular presentation. Helping them are Lon Chaney, Samuel S. Hinds, Moroni Olson and others.

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Thoughts On Tomorrow

With all the power of motion pictures to present things in impressive form, there comes now and then a sharp realization that the visual medium of expression is but a derivative of a greater one, the English language. Reading and writing are still the master tools of thought. The film has served to relieve them of carrying the entire burden of man's education.

Words, the every-day means of communication, have a way of reaching deeper and staying longer. A prophetic motion picture has a temporary appeal to the imagination and fades into the world of fantasy but penetrating words may be copied personally and examined again and again.

Everyone has at one time or another come across a collection of words that disturbed him. This writer had that experience again recently. A few sentences gave a strange feeling of seeing the past and the future in the same picture:

> "From all our hearts a great weight has been lifted; in those fields death no longer sweeps his scythe, and our ears at last are free from the rustling thereof—now comes the test of magnanimity in all countries. Will modern man rise to the ordering of a sane, a free, a generous life? Each of us loves his own country best, be it a little land or the greatest on earth; but jealousy is the dark thing, the creeping poison. When there is true greatness, let us acclaim it; where there is true worth, let us prize it—as if it were our own."

Do those words seem premature? They are of the past. When the late John Galsworthy, a great Briton, spoke them before an audience of Americans at Columbia University in 1919, they summarized years of yearning. A great period of bloodshed had just ended.

Today and Tomorrow

Though time has marched on since Galsworthy spoke those words, the world travelled back to the events that brought them forth. But wars do not last forever. The time will again come when peace is universal and the world will wonder what kind of a future is waiting.

There's always tomorrow—but what kind of a tomorrow? And what will the day after tomorrow be like?

Tomorrow depends on today. Without victory, tomorrow will be harsh and the day after tomorrow will be harsher. Without victory, our hoped-for day-after-tomorrow will be a hopeless dream. The day is not yet won on the battlefields but one hears plans about the future.

Galsworthy's words are evidence that a victorious tomorrow does not necessarily mean a secure future. Much depends on whether the country is healthy enough to continue the work of peace as vigorously as it has carried on the work of war.

Those officially responsible for our welfare are aware of this and acting on it. As John Grierson expressed it to the International Labor Organization: "All the patriotic ballyhoo is not so important as a credible pledge implemented in action, that the war is for the sake of the people everywhere, in common everyday terms, and nothing if not that."

Mr. Grierson's National Film Board, using the motion picture as the best-understood translator of significant words, is presenting in plain terms the vital importance of victory and the possibilities of tomorrow.

Republic Winks At Dame Fortune

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luxe its general production rule.

Hollywood's most ambitious studio is tossing $17,750,000 into its next season merchandise, increasing its wager on itself with the money it won last season gambling on several supers, "In Old Oklahoma" and "The Fighting Seabees." Then there was that heavy piece of change which the Roy Rogers investment brought back, part of which was a big ad and promotion expenditure. It's all in the pot this year.

It's pretty safe to make a few good side bets on Republic next season. Yates, Grainger and crew have graduated into the big money game slowly and thus seem sure of what they know. They intend to make sure the public sees things their way by setting aside $2,700,000 for promotion—a powerful point with the exhibitor.

Republic will produce 68 pictures next season. Thirty-two will be straight features and eight will keep the boxoffice busy with Roy Rogers. There will be eight Red Ryder Westerns starring Wild Bill Elliot; eight Smiley Burnette Westerns, eight Allen Lane Action Westerns and four serials.

A tipoff on the quality of Republic's coming product are the two features ready now. "Man From Frisco" stars Michael O'Shea, Ann Shirley and Gene Lockhart; and "Storm Over Lisbon" has Vera Hruba Ralston, Richard Arlen, Erich von Stroheim and Otto Kruger.

Just under way is an all-star musical, "Atlantic City," with Constance Moore, Bradford Taylor, Charles Grapewin, Jerry Colona, Paul Whiteman, Sophie Tucker, Belle Baker, Louis Armstrong's band, Joe Frisco, the comeback of Gallagher and Shean, and Van and Schenck, the teams being rebuilt with the remaining member in each case, and other popular entertainers.

It looks like Republic, having won the favor of Dame Fortune, is preparing to move into her parlor for a long stay.

Unions Sign Again

Hollywood producers just signed another five-year deal with the IATSE, which controls 25,000 studio workers.

Eleven Tons of Paper From Dresden, Ont.

Majestic Theatre, Dresden, Ontario, managed by Menzo T. Craig, hauled in 11 tons of paper with a special matinee. He used passes as prizes, the first winner bringing in 4,435 pounds and the others being close. Scouts and Cubs co-operated.

Fast Finish in Victory Loan

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cruiting depot and it was very effective.

At Hespeler, Ontario, Jack Melzer of the Queen's turned on the public address system twice a day, feeding it to the street and talking Victory Loan. School children, boy scouts and others saw free morning shows and marched to the thermometer-raising ceremonies on different days.

Howard Schedewitz, Lyric, Kitchener, Ontario, had the sea cadets march to his theatre to see a showing of "K225" and do special drills on the stage.

Chatham, Ontario, theatres did a fine job of newspaper boosting. The Capitol, Pat Drohan's house, was the scene of a stage show starred in by local glee clubs.

The Craig theatres, operated in Ridgetown and Dresden by Menzo T. Craig, did some fine work for the Loan. "The Shining Future" was a great booster and he says "hats off!" to all who were responsible for it. One salesman remarked that "If anyone can see that picture and still refuse to buy a bond, he just can't be sold." There were a number of showings in which school children and High and Vocational students paraded to the theatre in their Cadet uniforms.

The Scrap Book contest will be judged soon.

APRS to Collect Music Royalties

(Continued from Page 1)

erly exclusive in the Canadian field, will continue to collect fees at the same rate as formerly.

The Board is allowing APRS to collect one-half of a cent per seat per annum from theatres with 1600 seats and over; one-quarter of a cent from those under 1600; and one-eighth of a cent from those open less than four days weekly.

Broadcasters will pay one-quarter of a cent for every licensed receiving set and it is estimated that this will amount to $4,321 for the year.

The Musical Protective Society of Canada, which represents music users, did not object to the granting of a license but felt that if the APRS request was granted, fees of the CPRS should be lowered proportionately. The result of the decision is to increase the overall annual fee collected from theatres.

Columbia's 'Cover Girl' Crackerjack Romantic Musical Comedy, Top Technicolor Production

COLUMBIA has rung the bell with one of the loudest clangs in some years of big boxoffice noise. This time it's the fine production, "Cover Girl," which has a marked surplus of romance, comedy, beauty and sheer enjoyment.

Rita Hayworth steps out away ahead of herself in past performances and Gene Kelly, the other half of the love interest, hits his real stride as an actor, dancer and general entertainer. Phil Silvers carries excellent style. A story of theatre and night club background, it's an ace among escape films.

Taking no chances in any department, Columbia got Jerome Kern, composer of "Roberta," "Showboat," and many other fine scores, to do the music. Ira Gershwin did the lilting lyrics.

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Newspapers Are '... Friend Indeed'

(Continued from Page 1)

explanations as to its cause and many concerned about it have recklessly attributed it to the motion picture, going no further. Few official authorities have made blanket denunciations but there have been an increasing number of resolutions of protest from women's organizations.

Two of the chief centres of argument are Quebec and Ontario. In Quebec the seventeen-year-old ban of children under sixteen years of age is the subject of broad dispute and in Ontario it was suggested by members of the Ontario Legislature that a child psychologist be attached to the censor board for purposes of selection.

Newspapers of both provinces have risen to the defense of the film. The Windsor Daily Star opposed the idea of a child psychologist, pointing out that a child can see any film while accompanied by adults, and saying that Quebec goes about it "simply but harshly."

Punch and Judy Parallel

The Peterboro Examiner, in two vigorous editorials, made an excellent analysis of the question of a child psychologist and juvenile selection.

Discussing the fact, as brought up in the Ontario Legislature by C. A. Strange, member from Brantford, that the witch in "Snow White" was removed from certain sequences when shown in England, the Examiner claims that the traditional Punch and Judy show is even more exciting. "Perhaps some meddlesome censor prevented them from seeing the Witch," says the paper, "but that does not mean that he was justified in doing so."

"In any case," the editorial continues, "as we have said before in these columns, it would be stupid and unjust to regulate the film fare of this Province to suit the needs of children, or what busybodies, censors, reformers, and other professional worriers believe are their needs. The movies are the only sort of drama that we have. If movies are to be turned into mere moral pap for the young we shall have no drama whatever."

The Parents' Job

In another editorial the same newspaper said:

"We must not lose sight of the fact that the movies are a form of art, and are indeed the only form in which drama reaches millions of people on this continent. To attempt to limit drama to subjects suitable for consideration by children is sheer nonsense. Great drama and great literature are rarely suited to the needs of the very young; they are produced by adults for the entertainment of adults and children must wait until they are grown up to appreciate them. We cannot impose infantilism on the whole Province by limiting the movies to the needs of children.

"Associations of parents are often excellent things, but they have a bad habit of wanting other people to do work which properly belongs to parents themselves. If parents want to protect their children from unsuitable movies let them keep their children at home, and supervise their movie fare carefully. They must not try to bully the censors into doing their job for them, and they must not try to dictate the movie fare which shall be offered to the majority of movie-goers, who are adults and must be treated as adults."

Quebec Newspapers

More Quebec newspapers are taking up the fight against the juvenile ban, continued in spite of protests from Protestant and Catholic welfare bureaus. The Montreal Star has been prominent in opposition and other cities are rising to the fight.

The Sherbrooke Daily Record endorsed the editorial stand of the Rouyn-Noranda Press, headed "Youth, Crime and the Movies," which said that "Since children have so long been barred from movies in Quebec, the theatres can hardly be blamed for such conditions in this Province." The editorial said, in part:

"Religious authorities, kindly old ladies in their dotage and members of women's organizations who are more concerned with their outside work than with the activities of their homes and the doings of their children, periodically take time off to criticize and condemn the movies and shout from the hilltops because a certain type of picture is shown."

Slow to Praise

"But what do these same people do when the screen produces such pictures as 'Snow White,' 'My Friend Flicka,' 'Mrs. Miniver' or 'Madame Curie'?," the editorial asks. "They do nothing. They do not try to induce people to see these pictures. They decline to give credit where credit is due. The doors of the movie houses of this Province are closed to youth. They are not given an opportunity of seeing worth-while pictures and those people who have been instrumental in closing the theatres to the younger element sit back and let the youth of the Province seek its pleasures where it can find it. Then, when a wave of crime springs up, the movies are blamed."

One organization recently protested against the type of films being shown at Saturday matinees in its town. Copies of the resolution were sent to leading political figures in Ontario. The distributors' association examined the bookings in this situation and found them satisfactory. The theatre operator had received a letter of praise from another organization about his films. The distributors' association wrote the protesting organization, asking which films were objectionable. Weeks have gone by but no reply has been received. Yet this organization forwarded copies of its protest to members of the Legislature.

Those who have served in political offices for years accept these protests as routine. In recent elections many persons new to political life have won election and they are taking the protests more seriously, unaware that they represent almost a routine practice.

The fair attitude of the press, however, makes film and theatre men feel much better. Industry people have certainly been more patient and polite about the constant hectoring than their defenders are now.

'Made in Canada' Feature Films

Production of feature films in the French language will begin in Montreal shortly, with Annabella and Victor Francen, two leading personalities of French films, as stars.

Charles Phillipp is general manager of the newly-organized company, "Renaissance Film, Incorporated." Phillip has many years of experience in film production and in France produced all of Harry Baur's films.

The scenario of the first film, "La Pere Chopin," (Father Chopin), is ready and production will begin on June 15. Technicians from Hollywood and Montreal, among them Max Ophelus and Leonide Moguy, will assist.

Phillip was surprised to find excellent facilities for film production in Montreal. Part of the work will be done in the studios of the Associated Screen News and the rest in Ville Saint-Laurent.

Annabella, wife of Tyrone Power, is currently starring on the Broadway stage in "Jacobowsky and the Colonel" and Victor Francen appeared in "The Desert Song" and will be seen soon in "In Our Time."

THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

Film Weekly

REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

Vol. 9, No. 20 REVIEWS FROM FILM DAILY, NEW YORK $2.00 Per Annum

Hi 'Ya, Sailor

with Donald Woods, Elyse Knox
Universal 63 Mins.

MODEST MUSICAL IS STRICTLY ROUTINE ENTERTAINMENT THAT WILL CLICK WITH YOUNGSTERS.

This, another in the series of modest musicals turned out by Universal, has an appeal directed primarily at the extremely impressionable. At no time does the production make any pretext at maturity. Story, acting, production and direction are all in keeping with the unimportance of the enterprise.

The film is virtually nothing more than a collection of musical numbers and specialties strung together with small imagination. While none of them lays any claim to distinction and only one or two has much to recommend it, all of them will provide the young people with some measure of entertainment. The two names that will mean most to the torso-twisters are Ray Eberle and Wingy Manone. For curiosity value there is Myris Chaney, Mrs. Roosevelt's former protege whose association with the Office of Civilian Defense stirred a tempest in a teapot. Honesty compels one to report that the lady is nothing to get excited about so far as her dancing in her brief appearance in this film goes.

Weaving in and out of the musical numbers is a flimsy little story that placed no mental strain on its creators. The screen-play of Stanley Roberts was "suggested" by a story by Fanya Lawrence. It is hard to understand why Roberts needed a suggestion to devise the sort of plot display in "Hi 'Ya, Sailor."

The yarn details the efforts of Donald Woods, a merchant seaman, to sell a song on the success of which he hopes to found a career as a tunesmith. After a lot of discouragement he meets up with Phyllis Brooks, a singing star, who introduces the song for Woods after the latter has had a run-in with the girl's jealous manager, Jerome Cowan. Elyse Knox, a taxi driver, is instrumental in Wood's success. Also helpful are three fellow-seamen of Woods', Frank Jenks, Matt Willis and Eddie Quillan.

CAST: Donald Woods, Elyse Knox, Jerome Cowan, Frank Jenks, Matt Willis, Eddie Quillan, Phyllis Brooks, Ray Eberle, Chaney Trio, George Beatty, Hacker Duo, Delta Rhythm Boys, Neillson Sisters, Wingy Manone and band.

DIRECTION, Ordinary. PHOTOGRAPHY, Okay.

None Shall Escape

with Marsha Hunt, Alexander Knox
Columbia 85 Mins.

INITIAL PIC ON WAR-TRIALS THEME IS HIGHLY EFFECTIVE DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT WITH B. O. POWER.

"None Shall Escape" has the initial advantage of being the first motion picture to dwell on the question of post-war trials for those responsible for bringing on the present world convulsion. If the film had no more than its "firstness" with which to claim the interest, it would merit public attention. But it offers more, far more than that. The subject has been treated in so superb a fashion, all those involved have discharged their duties so well that the picture has every right to the ultimate of boxoffice support.

The story of a German gauleiter on trial for heinous crimes committed in the name of Hitler has been made into powerful dramatic entertainment under the producership of Samuel Bischoff. It is a tense, absorbing and emotionally stirring case history set forth in vivid terms.

Employing flashbacks, the story traces the events in the defendant's life that led to his indictment as a war criminal. The film opens in 1919 with his return to the German-Polish border village where he taught school before World War I. What follows is a succession of incidents showing his development into a fanatic Nazi. He stops at nothing to gain high honors in the Nazi party. He gives up his sweetheart, a Polish schoolmistress; rapes a young girl; turns his brother, a liberal, over to the Gestapo; brings up his nephew to be an image of himself; butchers the Jews of the village; finally kills the nephew when the young man, at last awakened to the true nature of Nazism, renounces the party for the slaying of a Polish girl, loved by him.

The cast has responded with magnificent performances to the simple and powerful direction of Andre DeToth—a job that rates raves. Alexander Knox makes an auspicious film debut as the defendant.

CAST: Marsha Hunt, Alexander Knox, Henry Travers, Erik Rolf, Richard Crane, Dorothy Morris, Richard Hale, Ruth Nelson, Kurt Kreuger, Shirley Mills, Elvin Field, Trevor Bardette, Frank Jaquet, Ray Teal, Art Smith, George Lessey.

DIRECTION, Superb. PHOTOGRAPHY, Superb.

The Heavenly Body

with William Powell, Hedy Lamarr
M-G-M 95 Mins.

MARITAL FARCE IS FIRST-RATE FUN FOR GROWN-UPS; POWELL BIG DRAW AFTER LONG SCREEN ABSENCE.

A titillating marital farce, "The Heavenly Body" is first-rate fun that will draw handsomely, thanks no little to the pairing of William Powell and Hedy Lamarr in the top roles. The film tells a diverting story smartly and with considerable bounce.

Of primary interest is the presence of William Powell in the cast. This is the actor's first starring film since he made "Crossroads" for Metro in early 1942. His only other film appearance since then has been in "The Youngest Profession," in which he was seen for a flash as a "guest star." The desire of his army of fans to welcome him back as a full-time performer will assure the boxoffice success of the production.

Powell is very much his old self in the role of an astronomer, who, at just about the time he has discovered a new comet, starts having trouble with his wife, Hedy Lamarr. Responsible is a visit by Miss Lamarr to an astrologer (Fay Bainter), who tells her another man is destined to come into her life. A chance meeting with James Craig, an air-raid warden, convinces her that this is the man Miss Bainter discovered in her horoscope. Forthwith Miss Lamarr goes after Craig, who isn't too happy about it all. From there on Powell is kept busy trying to keep his wife's silly notion from taking a serious turn. Of course, all ends well after a gay and lively time has been had by all. So terminates a fluffy story that will appeal to sophisticated people.

Produced brightly by Arthur Hornblow, Jr., the picture has the benefit of deft direction by Alexander Hall.

Powell is the main show in "The Heavenly Body." Miss Lamarr is chiefly ornamental. James Craig, Miss Bainter, Henry O'Neill, Spring Byington deliver the best performances in the supporting cast.

CAST: William Powell, Hedy Lamarr, James Craig, Fay Bainter, Henry O'Neill, Spring Byington, Robert Sully, Morris Ankrum, Franco Corsaro, Connie Gilchrist.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

My Best Gal

with Jane Withers, Jimmy Lydon
Republic 67 Mins.

STRICTLY JUVENILE IN TREATMENT AND APPEAL, SHOULD CLICK WITH HEPCAT AUDIENCES.

Another of Republic's modest-budget musicals, "My Best Gal" is strictly juvenile in treatment and in appeal. The production is full of the sort of stuff that catches the fancy of the bobby-sock patronage.

Musically, romantically and comedically the production offers the youngsters something to smile about. The picture is crowded with young people afflicted with the jives who keep themselves in a constant state of agitation—to the delight of the kids, no doubt.

The story is an implausible, infantile affair about the efforts of a couple of striplings (Jane Withers and Jimmy Lydon) to sell to a big Broadway producer a musical show written by one of them. When a sale seems imminent, the author insists that the cast be made up of an army of young friends, for whom the musical was written. No go, says the producer. The author reconsiders when money is needed to bring Miss Wither's ailing granddad (Frank Craven) back to health. The insistence of Lydon that his generosity be kept a secret causes Miss Withers and his friends to misunderstand his motive. He is cut cold, but at the finale all's rosy again, with Lydon in the Army and the show a big hit.

The players give no more of themselves than the material requires. Miss Withers and Lydon stage a demonstration of calf love that should please the young folk. The former handles the singing chores fairly well. Frank Craven seems lost among all the silly goings-on.

CAST: Jane Withers, Jimmy Lydon, Frank Craven, Fortunio Bonanova, George Cleveland, Franklin Pangborn, Mary Newton, Jack Boyle.

DIRECTION, Fair. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

Same Officers for United Amusements

United Amusements of Montreal elected the same officers at their annual meeting last week. Officers are Ernest A. Cousins, president; D. A. Murray, vice-president and comptroller; George Ganetakos, managing director; W. H. Mannard, secretary-treasurer; and W. Deveault, assistant secretary-treasurer.

Descriptions of Photo Layout On Page 4

Roy Rogers, Republic's Cowboy star, was probably amazed at the warmth of the reception he received during his recent visit to Toronto. He should be, for Toronto is a staid city which retains its reserve in the face of great events, that quality being characteristic of Canadians as well as Britains. The welcome was due to Rogers' friendly manner and appealing personality, which did much to bring out the youngster in everyone.

The photographs are here identified in horizontal form and the persons from left to right:

FIRST ROW

(1) Roy Rogers greeted on the steps of the City Hall by His Worship Mayor Conboy and Controller Fred Hamilton.

(2) Frank Meyers, manager of Exhibitors Booking Association; Ben Geldsaler, head booker, Famous Players; Ralph Dale, head booker, Odeon Theatres; and Herb Allen, Premier Operating.

(3) At Christie Street Hospital for returned veterans Rogers is greeted by Padre Lambert and Mrs. Moysey.

SECOND ROW

(1) Rogers with four Canadian Picture Pioneers—Clair Hague; Archie Laurie, Republic; Jule Allen, Premier Operating; Sam Fine, B & F Theatres.

(2) Rogers, holding what is the best Palemino colt in Canada, is shown with Charlie Mavety at the latter's Circle M. Ranch. Trigger is a Palemino and that breed is Charlie's pride and joy.

(3) Ben Freedman, president of the Independent Theatre Owners Association; Ray Lewis, secretary of the Motion Picture War Services Committee and editor of the Canadian Moving Picture Digest; Hye Bossin, editor of Canadian Film Weekly; Syd Taube, executive secretary of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario.

THIRD ROW

(1) Roy and Trigger pay a personal visit to the thrilled kids of the Sick Children's Hospital, Thistletown, Ontario.

(2) General scene at the luncheon welcome to Rogers at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto.

(3) Part of the head table. Grover Schaeffer, vice-president of Republic; Paul Nathanson, one of the leading Canadian film figures; Alf Perry, general manager of Empire-Universal.

FOURTH ROW

(1) Scene at Christie Street Hospital.

(2) Rogers isn't just popular with the patients.

(3) One of the wards visited.

Canadian IATSE Men Head for St. Louis

Canadian delegation to the coming St. Louis convention of the IATSE will be headed by William P. Covert, Dominion vice-president, who is second vice-president of the International body and a member of the general executive.

Others who will make the trip are Dave Seigal, president of Local 173, Bert Higgins, James Sturges and Gus Demery, all of 173. For Local 50 of the Stagehands, also a Toronto branch, Harry Fisher and Earl Curtis will be on hand.

Here Comes the Bribe

The Globe and Mail's Roly Young, running an Under-the-Bridge dictionary, a sort of looney lexicon, jocularly (I hope) defines a trade paper as a "Barter" publication—"We'll trade you a good review for a $200 advertisement."

Which reminds me that when I ran one of those Sketches in Sulphuric Acid called "Movie Columnist," in which I had written that "As a reviewer he is famed for his low price of ten dollars per star or one bottle of Scotch," Roly dropped in and jocularly (I hope) assailed me for cutting his prices.

I hereby ask Roly why he should raise our prices? Some bad guy with good money might be influenced out of his intention to leave a $100 bill and some copy under my pillow.

(In Lowered Tones to Roly: Where can I get in touch with that $200 guy? Will pay you the usual agency commission of 15 per cent.)

* * *

Typodermic Injections

The morning the news broke of the move to make trouble for the Casino, Lester Montgomery, the producer of its stage shows, took a look at the opening of the picture, which was Mae West's "The Heat's On," and nearly threw a fit. The film opens with a theatre being raided, closed and its performers jailed! They sure yanked that one in a hurry. . . A local lad just returned from New York tells about an incident at Radio City Music Hall. Erno Rapee was leading the orchestra through that old-timer, "William Tell Overture." He got to the part where the music gives the impression of cavalry galloping when a youngster yelled "Hi Ho Silver!" and caused a roar of laughter. It even got Rapee, my informant said. . . Ben Granatstein's new stand in the lobby of the rebuilt Film Exchange Building is probably the neatest and niftiest of its kind around these parts. Ben's welcoming smile competes with the flourescent lighting for brightness. . . There's a new book called "Boxoffice," which I seized with interest, only to find that it is a collection of short stories from which movies were made. . . Speaking of books, the one Jimmy Durante is writing, called "Durante: Patron of the Arts," was formerly called "A Nose by Any Other Name."

* * *

Just Like Gracie

Cashier of the Ace Theatre, Toronto, Mrs. Ann Fritz, was one of those present at Grace Fields' Victory Loan Concert. She was smitten with the turban the star wore and phoned her secretary about it. During the conversation she remarked that the Ace was playing "Look Up and Laugh," starring Gracie.

The next day Gracie and husband came on a surprise visit to see the film. When the star had gone it was discovered that she had left the turban for the cashier.

* * *

Pickups and Laydowns

Sign on a timebeaten automobile: "Don't collect this scrap—I still drive it" . . . A witty observer remarked that these times reminded him of the Gay 90s. "Why," asked an unwitting straight man. "Because," came the reply, "the girls are gay and the men are 90". . . How about a sheep for your front lawn? In Montana the parks needed a haircut badly, there being a shortage of lawnmowers, so the State dumped 200 sheep in them to graze away the surplus. These days Mary's famed little lamb would have more to do than to just follow her around, the loafer—if he hadn't been eaten by now. . . A Chinese fable being told by Ilka Chase during her lectures is about two tears floating down the river of time. "I am the tear of a woman who lost her man to another," said the first. "Don't feel so bad," answered the second. "I am the tear of the woman who got him". . . An interesting Opera anecdote showed up the other day. A company was playing "Faust." There is a scene in which Mephisto guides Faust into the former's fiery hangout. A descending trap door is used in it. The trap door stuck after a few feet and wouldn't yield to the obvious efforts of the actors to make it keep moving. Then some drunk in the gallery yelled: "Thank God—I'm safe at last. Hell is full!" . . . Favorite phrase today: "There's a war on, you moron!"

E. H. WELLS

Eddie Wells assumed the duties of Col. John A. Cooper upon the latter's recent retirement as spokesman for the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors' Association.

Soviet Union Honors Its Filmites

More than 500 actors and technicians of Russia's motion picture industry were given special awards by the government last week.

Norman W. Mason Is Still a Trouper

Norman W. Mason, who recently retired from the theatre field after 30 years, is organizing a touring company of "The Old Homestead." It will play army camps. The new venture is a sentimental journey. Mason played Uncle Josh in the original company headed by the late Denman Thompson and has revived the play each year with himself in his old role.

Missing

PILOT OFFICER LAWRENCE A. ALLEN

Pilot Officer Lawrence A. Allen, son of Max Allen, well-known exhibitor who resides in Windsor, has been officially reported missing. P.O. Allen has been in the RCAF since early in 1942.

Flashbacks

FLASHBACKS ran into a marked difference of opinion recently. The Grimsby Independent, a lively newspaper of that flowery Ontario place of habitation, reported the remarks of Mayor Edric S. Martin on the subject of Mrs. Bessie Kinzie Moore, operator of Moore's Theatre, and one of two lady members of the Canadian Picture Pioneers.

The mayor, speaking particularly of the trials and struggles that Mrs. Moore has gone through in her long management of the theatre, said that "during all those struggles and through the depression, she never lost an opportunity to do good or to help someone less fortunate than herself."

The Grimsby Independent, not to be outdone by Mayor Martin, wrote that "Mrs. Moore has become an institution in Grimsby. Since the day she first assumed the managerial mantle her one thought has always been for the betterment of Grimsby. She has always been a close supporter of the kids and there are dozens of boys overseas today who can attest to the kindness shown them as kids and since then as servicemen, by this lady."

Where does the difference of opinion come in? That involves taking sides against Mrs. Moore, which is not really an ungallant thing to do. You see, Mrs. Moore being Mrs. Moore, when asked about the fuss being made about her, answered, "I think my good friends of Grimsby have me highly over-rated."

Gentlemen, will you join us against Mrs. Moore's opinion?

What set off these verbal fireworks in celebration of Mrs. Moore as a person and a citizen was the fact that the Lions Club, meeting at Grimsby Village Inn, had selected her to receive their Good Citizenship Medal, an annual award made by impartial judges after nominations of a general nature are received. The mayor pinned the medal on Mrs. Moore and in the days that followed many congratulations arrived because of the popular choice made.

THIRTY-FOUR years have raced, strolled and stumbled by since Mrs. Moore first came to Grimsby and for 27 of them she has been a theatre manager. They were eventful years but the story of Bessie Kinzie Moore and show business began before that.

Perhaps the most important thing in her early life were showboats. They, when they came down the Monongohela River to leave a cargo of joy at the hamlet of Georgetown, Pennsylvania, were an unrecognized harbinger of the future life of the little girl who visited them. Showboats meant show business and sailors. Bessie Moore was to marry a sailor and enter show business with him.

MRS. BESSIE KINZIE MOORE

"Among my souvenirs," says Mrs. Moore of this photograph, and that it "is certainly 'Way Back When' enough."

When in her teens she moved to Cleveland and met A. W. Moore, a Canadian who was a Captain on the Great Lakes. Mr. Moore soon took to the land permanently, engaging in various endeavors in Cleveland until he met H. H. Wylie. The latter had purchased the Grimsby Park Co. to convert its property into an amusement park. Moore joined him and opened a movie house. Movies, still a novelty, were growing in popularity. In the fall Moore moved the theatre to the town hall, and brought his wife and two children to Grimsby.

In 1911 the town hall was torn down and Moore, following the policy of playing the park in the summer and the village for the rest of the year, found a new location in the fall. The show stayed there for two years. In 1914 several citizens, among them the present mayor, suggested that Grimsby ought to have a permanent theatre. The result is the present one, in which many changes have taken place since its first days. It is recognized today as one of the best small town theatres in Canada.

IN 1917 Mr. Moore passed on and Mrs. Moore took over the management of the theatre. Since then she has won recognition as one of the most forward-looking members of the community and the motion picture business.

High regard for her is not exclusive to Grimsby, for she is extremely popular in the trade. She always had the welcome sign out for motion picture folk who passed through or stopped. And few passed through when they could stop to say hello.

She is just as busy as she ever was, is this lively lady. A member of the Canadian Picture Pioneers, she is also an honorary member of the Lincoln Loyalist Chapter of the IODE, and an honorary member of the West Lincoln Branch 127 of the Canadian Legion.

What year was that old-time photo taken? Mrs. Moore didn't refuse to tell—just didn't offer to. The enquiry wasn't pressed. Let the lady have the last word in saying that "it is certainly 'Way Back When' enough."

LET us surmise that the photo was taken at the amusement park the first year the Moores got there. That would be 1910.

For one thing, movies had not grown important enough to attack. A newspaper headline stated: "Saloon man opposed to moving pictures. New form of amusement said to be great foe of barrooms." John Bunny was the No. 1 comedian and he was starring with Flora Finch in "The New Stenographer." A new cowboy star named Tom Mix appeared in "Ranch Life in the Great South West" and the first "Ramona," starring Mary Pickford and Henry Walthall, was doing fine business. Also "The Italian Barber," starring Pickford and Mack Sennett, which was directed by D. W. Griffith.

Halley's Comet showed up for the first time since 1835 and while everybody was talking about it Mark Twain, who was born when it last appeared, died. Glenn Curtiss flew from Albany to New York, winning $10,000, and Barney Oldfield electrified the automobile world by racing a mile in just over 37 seconds. There was a rumor that Ziegfeld would be divorced by Anna Held.

Stage hits were "The Mikado," "Madame Sherry," "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm," "The Music Master," "Tillie's Nightmare" and "The Girl of the Golden West." Caruso, Maxine Elliott, John McCormack, David Warfield, Mary Garden, Douglas Fairbanks and Otis Skinner were big names. There were now thousands of movie theatres and several new production companies were founded, to which stage stars were attracted. Edison experimented with sound films.

Romantic youth was singing "Ah, Sweet Mystery of Life" and "Down by the Old Mill Stream." Folks were dancing to "Chicken Reel."

THAT'S the kind of a world that was adorned by the handsome lady in the "where-did-you-get-that" hat. Adorn it she did, for she looks like the nicest thing that could happen to a gay blade's eyes "while strolling through the park one day in the merrymerry month of May."

In Grimsby and elsewhere, Mrs. Moore is still a lovely lady, the years notwithstanding.

It Makes a Fellow Feel Very Good

Secretary Syd Taube of the Motion Picture Theatre Association of Ontario, hearing a radio appeal for contribution to an Overseas Smokes Fund, sent in a couple of bucks.

The other day he got a note from a soldier in Italy saying, "Many thanks for the smokes. We sure enjoy a Canadian cigarette. Keep the chins up, it won't be long now."

C'mon, Hep Hep,
Get On Your Way!
The Big Fun Show
Is Here To Stay!

Charles R. ROGERS Presents

with EDGAR BERGEN and CHARLIE McCARTHY

SONG OF THE OPEN ROAD

W. C. FIELDS
BONITA GRANVILLE

A Great Show — A Great Band — SAMMY KAYE'S Swaying Swingsters!

and Introducing JANE POWELL

"... what a girl — she makes me want to misspend my misspent youth all over again!"

"You alcoholic acrobat — she deserves a man with blood — not brandy in his veins!"

PEGGY O'NEILL • JACKIE MORAN • BILL CHRISTY
Reginald Denny • Regis Toomey • Rose Hobart • Pat Starling

SPECIALTIES BY	SONGS
HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN KIDS	"Too Much In Love"
CONDOS BROTHERS	"Here It Is Monday"
LIPHAM FOUR	"Fun In The Sun"
CATRON & POPP	"Rollin' Down The Road"
	"Delightfully Dangerous"

Directed by S. SYLVAN SIMON

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Based on story by Irving Phillips & Edward Verdier • Released thru UNITED ARTISTS

Watch 'em swing and sway with SAMMY KAYE

Charles R. Rogers who discovered Deanna Durbin now gives you JANE POWELL —you heard her on Charlie McCarthy's radio show

THE OPEN ROAD TO BIGGER GROSSES *THROUGH*

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Annual Ontario Report

(Continued from Page 1)

were 16 mm., all but 26 of these originating in the USA. The number of features examined was 475.

The chairman pointed out that reissues have increased and that a number had been presented under new titles. The Board does not consider this good practice and has ruled that such films must be presented under their original titles.

Scenes appearing in trailers must be in the production when shown or be omitted from the trailer.

Ad Checkup Close

The number of pieces of advertising examined, 34,163, represented an increase, with 102 being rejected entirely and 14 approved after revision. A close selection of stills for theatre display was exercised, "since such photographs, being separated from the theme and moral of the film, are subject to the personal interpretations of those who see them. "This also applies to posters, slides, newspaper cuts and handbills."

British Films

Commenting on the increased British and Canadian newsreel footage, Mr. Silverthorne noted the growing place of British production.

"In the entertainment field," he observed, "it is becoming evident that the British Motion Picture industry, which lost world leadership during the last war, is preparing for a prominent place. Production values comparable with those from America are almost a certainty, and the content of the films will be such as to win American and Canadian audiences. It is very likely that in a short time there will be many first-rate British films in our leading theatres."

Visual Education

Canadian production facilities were great enough to continue peacetime production of educational films and Ontario, being the most progressive Province in Canada, will be looked to as the leader in this field, according to the report. Visual education programs were being set up now.

Films produced to educate the people about social disease were very effective in helping to control this menace.

Projectionists Praised

"Theatre safety beyond the effect of the regulations depends on the right man in the right place," said Mr. Silverthorne. "The man who handles the film itself as it is being shown is the chief custodian of the safety of the patron. Ontario is fortunate in having highly skilled and conscientious projectionists who, though rarely seen by the patron, are the persons upon whom he depends most."

He described the job of projectionists in these days as "no easy task," film often arriving with little time to spare and calling for special effort to make sure that it can withstand the operation of the machines.

Theatre Figures

Four hundred and twelve theatres were licensed in the last year, a decrease of six. One new theatre was opened and alterations of a minor nature were made to 22. Other license figures: public halls, 2,141; apprentice projectionists, 210; projectionists, 877; miscellaneous, 104; travelling shows, 110.

Five prosecutions were instituted for infractions of the regulations and four convictions were obtained. Six licenses were suspended, four being projectionists and two public halls.

Juvenile Delinquency

Considerable space in the report was given to Juvenile Delinquency and the motion picture. During the year there had been frequent discussions with welfare organizations and motion picture convenors, whose interest was welcomed.

"We agree that the motion picture can contribute to juvenile delinquency," Mr. Silverthorne said, "but to what extent and what the remedy may be is difficult to determine. It is impossible for the Board to exercise integral control. It can only go so far. Beyond that point the problem transfers itself to the parents or guardians of the child, the manager of the theatre and organizations of the local community. Certainly, films cannot be found for each juvenile age level."

He recommended greater supervision of the child as a means of removing exposure to possible wrongful impressions. This was not so easy where parents have answered the call of the nation for armed service or war work. "That being the case, many believe that the child is much safer from harm or accident while attending a motion picture presentation than exposed to unsupervised and unlimited play on the streets."

Prohibitory legislation, the chairman suggested, might fall short of its purpose, creating in the juvenile mind resentment and disrespect for law and law enforcement agencies, thus aggravating the situation.

Nature of Censorship

The report said earlier that "the tension of these times has stimulated criticism and the motion picture, in a prominent position, has not been spared."

"The motion picture industry, through self-regulation, unofficial influence and the work of such government bodies as this," stated Mr. Silverthorne in the section dealing with censorship, "is subjected to a greater degree of censorship than any other type of popular entertainment."

If there is any question of the wrongful or thoughtless use of certain types of films, it is one of the right audience for the right picture, he contended. "The Board removes what it thinks may be harmful and governs the attendance of children up to the age of 16."

Hollywood has made fewer crime films and as for "horror" films, it was not fair to deprive the adult public of them in the face of their popularity. The increased number of films with a religious theme in production was evidence of changing tastes and a rebirth of spiritual values generally.

Motion picture censorship, in Ontario as elsewhere, was superior to that exercised over any other form of entertainment available to children.

"The Board begs leave to submit that motion picture censorship in Ontario compares with that found anywhere on this continent," said Mr. Silvertthorne. "This opinion is based on an examination of the annual reports of similar bodies which reach this office."

Ontario film and theatre men, when queried, expressed the opinion that the report was an excellent one and ranked high among the many issued by American State and Canadian Provincial bodies. It is a frank analysis of motion picture problems and if studied by those who criticize motion pictures, will do much to assist mutual understanding and make future discussion more constructive.

Enquiries in the trade hereabouts also revealed that Ontario film and theatre men consider the present administration of the Board superior to any in the past. It has kept pace with the problems and progress of the motion picture industry as it developed. Though standing firm against too-liberal interpretation of its regulations, it has never been unfair. Even in applying penalties against some theatre men, it has won the moral support of the majority of others.

Hudson is Prexy

Vern Hudson, manager of the Palace, Guelph, was recently elected president of the Rotary Club.

July Opening in Newfoundland

The Paramount Theatre, now under construction in St. John's, Newfoundland, will be opened in July if there are no further delays in securing material. It will seat 1200 and be the second house in the city.

It is expected to be completed at an approximate cost of $250,000.00. The promoters, all local businessmen headed by Mr. B. D. Parsons, are the owners of the property, known as the Nfld. Theatres Ltd. Recently a partnership arrangement was made between the Newfoundland Theatres Ltd., and the Newfoundland Amusements Ltd., the company which operates the Capitol Theatre to control the management of the new building and share in the profits, while a business deal was also made with the Famous Players, Canadian Corporation Ltd., which operates 300 theatres in Canada, whereby this company will receive a 50% interest.

Barnes in B.C.

Pete Barnes, who with Lou Davidson recently acquired the Langley Theatre, Langley, B.C., is supervising alterations to the house.

A scene from "Address Unknown," dramatic new Columbia hit, starring Academy Award winner Paul Lukas.

Mrs. Dan Pearce Passes in Toronto

Mrs. Harriet Josephine Pearce passed away in Toronto recently. She was the wife of Dan Pearce, who managed the Star Theatre, later the Empire, in Toronto, before it was torn down in 1931. She came from Brooklyn and resided in Toronto since 1906.

Main Talks Biz

H. C. D. Main, Odeon supervisor, was the speaker before Iroquois, Ontario, Lions, making known industry accomplishments.

International's Gypsy

Gypsy Rose Lee, literate stripper, has been signed by International Pictures to an exclusive five-year contract.

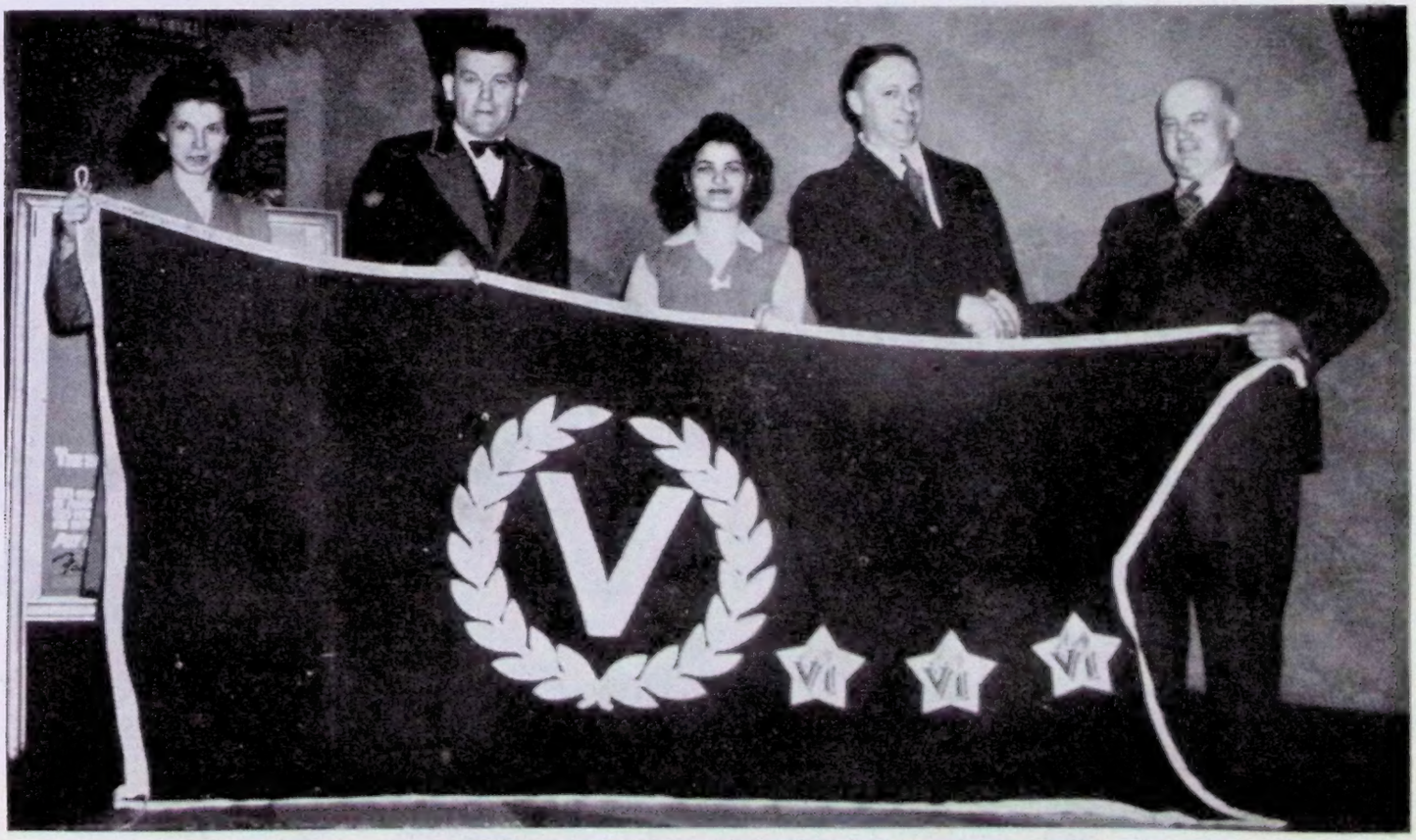
Scholastic Film Council Meets

The Commission on Motion Pictures in Education, recently organized under a grant from the motion picture industry to develop a program for the more effective use of motion pictures in education particularly as applied to post-war needs, met recently to determine further matters of policy and procedure. Dr. Mark A. May of Yale University is Chairman of the Commission. The other members, all of whom were present, are:

Dr. Edmund E. Day, President, Cornell University; Dr. George Counts, Director of the Division of Foundations of Education, Teachers College, Columbia University; Dr. George Zook, President of the American Council on Education; Monsignor George Johnson, General Secretary of the National Catholic Educational Association; Dr. Willard E. Givens, Executive Secretary of the National Education Association.

Falk Gets Theatre?

Henry Falk is said to be dickering for the Radio Theatre, Longueuil, Quebec, which has been closed for a few years.



One of the first of the many V pennants won by theatres for 90% staff subscriptions is this of the Capitol Theatre, North Bay, Ontario. Left to right: Mrs. Douglas Wing, W. Pinkerton, Pauline Cerisano, H. P. Charlton of the Victory Loan Committee, and Manager Jack Nelson.

M-G-M 1924–1944

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP WITH GOOD WILL TOWARDS ALL AND THE BRIGHTEST YEARS AHEAD

Celebration Starts June 22nd